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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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1. At 0700 on 21 September 1954, a tactical exercise of Seehydrographischer Dienst der VP See (Maritime Hydrographical Service of the Sea Police) (SHD) was begun. The initial positions of the SHD vessels were as follows:

JOHANN L. KRUEGER	near Daenholm Island
SENTA	Stralsund harbor
MAGNETOLOGE	Stralsund harbor
Motor launch	Stralsund harbor
HYDROGRAPH	near Croeslin in the Peene River
GAUSS	Sassnitz harbor
ARKONA	in Sassnitz harbor

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2. At 0730 on 21 September 1954, almost all officers of the Stralsund SHD, or between 15 and 20 persons, including Korvettenkapitaene (Corvette Captains) Olaf Flegner, Schmidt (fnu) and Juelke (fnu) were assembled at the office of Special Group Hinz. This room, called the "operations room" as long as the exercises lasted, and was marked "No Entrance". A wall chart in this room had an area hatched in red which obviously indicated a mine field at a position about one sea mile east of the swept channel between Cape Arkona and Sassnitz off the east coast of Ruegen Island. Two other charts on different tables in the room seemed to have the same information. It appeared that the situation was being discussed at the time.

3. During the period from 21 September to 0750 on 24 September 1954, three or four SHD officers were on duty in the situation room day and night, while the other officers performed their routine duties. No exercise movements were carried out in the office building during the period that the operations room was occupied. No civilian employees with the exception of the head of the coast lighting service were assigned any mission in connection with the exercises. No air-raid warning was given nor were any Sea Police vessels seen in Stralsund harbor. SHD vessels JOHANN L. KRUEGER, SENTA, MAGNETOLOGE and motor launch were lying in readiness but did not receive any orders.

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4. The following information was obtained from the captain of one of the SHD vessels on the return to Stralsund of SHD vessels ARKONA and GAUSS from Sassnitz. Sea Police exercises were held off Sassnitz from 21 to 24 September 1954 with SHD vessels GAUSS and ARKONA participating. The situation assumed for the exercises was as follows:

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The blue enemy attacked Sassnitz harbor and air raid warnings were given several times during the day and during the night. The vessels of the defending party, including ARKONA and GAUSS, had to leave Sassnitz harbor each time the air raid warning was given. A night attack on Sassnitz harbor was made, the attackers being a flotilla of DELPHIN-type vessels. The attacker fired red tracer ammunition, while the defender, and also the DELPHIN boats, fired white tracers. In the course of the exercises, it was assumed that the Sassnitz harbor entrance was blocked by a steamer scuttled there. The GAUSS was ordered to moor a buoy in connection with the exercises. The buoy, however, had first to be brought by truck from Stralsund. Another assumption was that the Sassnitz molehead light was destroyed, whereupon the head of the coast lighting service was brought to Sassnitz from Stralsund in a sedan and had to erect a provisional molehead light on the molehead, a tripod with a lamp. The land surveying group of the SHD was not engaged in the exercises.

5. The tactical exercise of the SHD ended at 0750 on 24 September 1954. The seven vessels partaking in the exercises were again placed at the disposal of the SHD.

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